GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

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General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

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FIGHTING IS THEIR PASTIME

These three musketeers of Ethiopia are typical of the roving tribesmen who recently have caused trouble along the borders of both French and Italian possessions in Africa. Ethiopia has about 1,000,000 men available in the event of war, but little modern fighting equipment (see Bulletin No. 1).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Italy's Colonies Dwarf the "Boot"

AGAIN trouble looms in Africa along the undefined boundary between Italian Somaliland and Ethiopia (Abyssinia). Clashes between border patrols have resulted in a general mobilization of Italian troops, and into the day's news have flashed the names of other Italian colonies in Africa—Libya and Eritrea—where military forces hold themselves in readiness for a campaign against restive Ethiopian tribesmen.

The dispatches call attention to the fact that Italy ranks fifth among the world's great landlords. With nearly one million square miles already under her flag, she is outranked only by Great Britain, Soviet Russia, France, and the United States.

Italy's empire, however, is not as widely spread over the globe as those of other great landholding nations. All of it is confined to Europe, Africa, and islands in near-by seas.

Libya Twice Size of Texas

Italy's colonies have an area of about eight times that of the "boot" and near-by islands (Sicily, Sardinia, etc.) which comprise the mother country. Libya, the largest of the Italian colonies, spreads over a vast region in North Africa, directly south of Italy and Sicily. It is made of the two former colonies, Tripolitania and Cirenaica. Most of Libya is desert, dotted here and there with oases.

Nearly twice the size of the State of Texas, Libya reaches from the Mediterranean deep into the sands of the Sahara, where its southern boundary in some regions is not clearly defined. Many of its inhabitants (717,663) are desert nomads and traders who spend their time moving from oasis to oasis over a network of caravan routes. Along the coast irrigation has worked wonders, although at great cost. Barren waste land has been made into producing farms, and some of the sleeping towns have been awakened by a progressive Italian colonization program.

Italian Somaliland is one of the three Europe-owned Somalilands—the other two belong to France and Great Britain. Most of the colony, particularly the northern and central portions, is sun-parched and barren. In the south, the Giuba (Juba) River, flowing down to the Indian Ocean from the hills of Ethiopia, waters a winding, fertile region through the Somaliland plains. In some places the fertile land reaches only a few hundred yards from the river banks, but in others it is several miles wide.

Eritrea Shaped Like Huge Paddle

Lugh, one of Somaliland's most thriving inland commercial centers, is 250 miles up the Giuba. It is outnumbered in population only by the capital, Mogadiscio (29,000). Although Somaliland is not the largest Italian colony, it outranks the others in population. It has more than a million inhabitants.

Eritrea, spreading along the sun-swept western shore of the Red Sea, is almost mile for mile the same size as the State of Pennsylvania. It is shaped somewhat like a blunt-topped paddle. The "handle" is but 50 miles wide, while the bulging upper end, abutting Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, is 350 miles wide. Eritrea, like northern Libya, is slowly coming to the front economically. New highways are being extended into many of its most forbidding, barren regions; a railroad now links the principal port, Massaua (see illustration, next page), with the capital, Asmara,

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Photograph from Dr. Theodore P. Cleveland

A SINGLE BANANA LEAF FOR A TABLECLOTH; COCONUTS FOR CHAIRS

One does not have to roam far in Tahiti to find South Sea Islanders living and eating in native fashion. Tahitian food is prepared in a "fireless cooker"—a hole in the ground which has been heated with hot stones. Breadfruit, bananas, taro, and raw fish are favorite dishes (see Bulletin No. 5).

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Expedition To Map and Explore Unknown Yukon

EXPLORATION and mapping of an unknown region in the extreme southwest corner of Yukon Territory, Canada, will be the objective this spring of the National Geographic Society's Yukon Expedition conducted by Bradford Washburn, conqueror of Alaska's Mount Crillon, it is announced by Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor, President of The Society.

The Canadian Government is interested in the work of the expedition and has extended its whole-hearted cooperation to the National Geographic Society and to Mr. Washburn.

Mr. Washburn and other members of the expedition have already begun the journey to the northwest.

Several of Continent's Highest Peaks

The region to be explored is surrounded by a group of several of the highest peaks on the North American continent, including Mount Hubbard, Mount St. Elias (see illustration, next page), and Mount Lucania.

This area will be explored, photographed, and mapped by the party from the air and from the ground.

The expedition will consist of Mr. Washburn of Cambridge, Massachusetts; Robert H. Bates of Philadelphia; Adams Carter of Boston, a Harvard undergraduate; and Hartness Beardsley, undergraduate of Dartmouth and member of the Dartmouth Outing Club.

"Andy" Taylor, "sourdough" guide and snow expert, of Alaska, who has traversed many of the Territory's little-known areas and climbed a number of its high peaks; and Ome Daiber, of Seattle, an experienced skier and climber, will also be included among the expedition's personnel.

Planes Will Carry Party and Supplies

From Skagway, Alaska, equipment will be taken by rail over famous White Pass of gold rush days to Carcross near White Horse. From Carcross a Canadian plane equipped with radio and ski landing gear will carry the party and its supplies 150 miles west to the untraversed region that extends westward from Lake Kluane. Seven or eight flights will be required.

After two weeks of photographic work by plane from its base camp on the ice cap between Mount Hubbard and Mount Vancouver, the expedition will do ground mapping for several weeks until the days become long enough to permit high altitude work.

Because snow will be off large areas around Lake Kluane by the time the party completes its explorations, it probably will be impossible for Mr. Washburn and his companions to be taken out by plane.

Traveling light, they will make their way back the 150 miles to the head of the railway on foot.

Note: For supplementary reading and photographs see: "The Conquest of Mount Crillon," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1935; "To-day on 'The Yukon Trail of 1898,'" July, 1930; "Gentlemen Adventurers of the Air," November, 1929; "The Conquest of Mt. Logan," June, 1926; and "The First Alaskan Air Expedition," May, 1922.

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75 miles inland; and Massaua and other trading centers of the colony are showing new commercial life.

Italy's Aegean Islands (often known as the Dodecanese) form the smallest unit of the colonial empire. They are a group of volcanic isles sprinkled over a wide area of the Aegean Sea near its meeting point with the Mediterranean. Some of the islands are so close to the shore of Asiatic Turkey that on clear days they can be seen from the mainland.

Italy's colonial empire is young as colonial empires go. Libya and the Dodecanese Islands were occupied by Italy during the quarrel between Italy and Turkey in 1912, and later were annexed by treaty. Assab, Eritrea, is the corner stone of Italian colonization on the Red Sea. About fifty years ago the town was purchased by an Italian shipping company for a coaling station. By treaties, Italy acquired other parcels of the Red Sea coast, and in 1890 all of them were joined under the present colonial name.

Somaliland came to Italy like a jig-saw puzzle. Northern Somaliland was acquired in 1889 by an agreement with Great Britain, Ethiopia, and Zanzibar. Sixteen years later an area to the south was purchased from the Sultan of Zanzibar for $750,000. The tail of the colony, including the busy port Chisimaio (Kismayu), was leased to Italy in 1905. In 1925, when the European powers held a colonial "dividing party," Italy's representative emerged with papers declaring Italy's ownership of the leased territory.

Note: Other references to Italian colonies and Ethiopia will be found in "Modern Ethiopia" and "Coronation Days in Addis Ababa," *National Geographic Magazine*, June, 1931; "Cirenaica, Eastern Wing of Italian Libia," June, 1930; "Nature and Man in Ethiopia," August, 1928; "Skirting the Shores of Sunrise (Islands of the Aegean)," December, 1926; "Tripolitania, Where Rome Resumes Sway," August, 1925; "Crossing the Untraversed Libyan Desert," September, 1924; and "Historic Islands and Shores of the Aegean," September, 1915.

See also in the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS: "Libya 'Bores' Deeper into Africa," week of January 28, 1935; also "Do You Know Italian Somaliland?" week of November 12, 1934.

Bulletin No. 1, March 4, 1935.

Photograph by James C. Wilson

STEAMER AND CARAVAN MEET IN ERITREA

This Italian colony along the northern border of Ethiopia is largely a desert land, but military roads have been built into the interior and, through irrigation, farm crops are increasing. The dock at Massaua, chief port of Eritrea.

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The Boy Scouts, an Army Dedicated To Service and Fun

AT THE conclusion of the 25th birthday celebration of the founding of the Boy Scouts of American in February, it was announced that the First National Jamboree will be held in Washington, D. C., August 21 to 30. Park areas and islands in the Potomac will be converted into tent cities for more than 35,000 youths, 1,000 of whom will come from foreign countries.

The idea of training boys so they will make useful men is, of course, as old as mankind. You see it even among savages. They fall short of what we teach Boy Scouts about thrift, kind acts, and telling the truth. But, like us, they do teach their boys to swim, jump, make trips, build fires, use the bow and arrow, track wild animals, and to endure hard knocks without whimpering.

Our early-day western scouts, of course, learned much from the Indians. By observation and experience, they came to understand Indian smoke signals, picture writing, what certain sticks meant when laid in patterns on the ground, and the sign language.

Tracking by Faint Signs

Then there was tracking, the art of following a man or animal, not only by footprints, but by such faint signs as a turned-up pebble, bent weeds, or a broken twig by the wayside. A lot of that we got first hand from the Indians, and every good cowboy still employs it in finding stray cattle and horses.

The world-wide Boy Scout organization, as we know it now, is the result of age-old training. How Lord Baden-Powell, then a colonel in the British Army, conceived the Boy Scout idea in the South African War of 1899-1902 is an oft-told tale.

One of his officers, Lord Cecil, organized the boys of Mafeking as a scout corps. This trial proved that if their training could be made to appeal to them, boys could be led to assume much responsibility—but *only if they were trusted.*

It was Baden-Powell, or "B. P.," as boys all over the world now call him, who in 1901 raised the South African Constabulary. Troops in this organization were small units, so that a commander could deal with each scout from personal knowledge of him.

Arouses Spirit of Adventure

The human side was appealed to, and scouts trusted on their honor to do their duty. Their uniform for fieldwork was the cowboy hat, shirt, green tie, and shorts. Badges were given for good work.

Returning to England in 1903, Colonel Baden-Powell found that certain teachers there had adopted his "Aids to Scouting" as a textbook for training boys. His own first trial camp for scout training was set up at Brownsea Island, England, in 1907.

That was the formal start of a movement now spread over the whole world, involving more than 2,000,000 boys.

"To arouse the boys and meet their spirit of adventure," writes Baden-Powell, "I held up backwoodsmen and knights, adventurers, and explorers as heroes for them to follow."

By 1910 the Boy Scout movement had grown so large that Baden-Powell left

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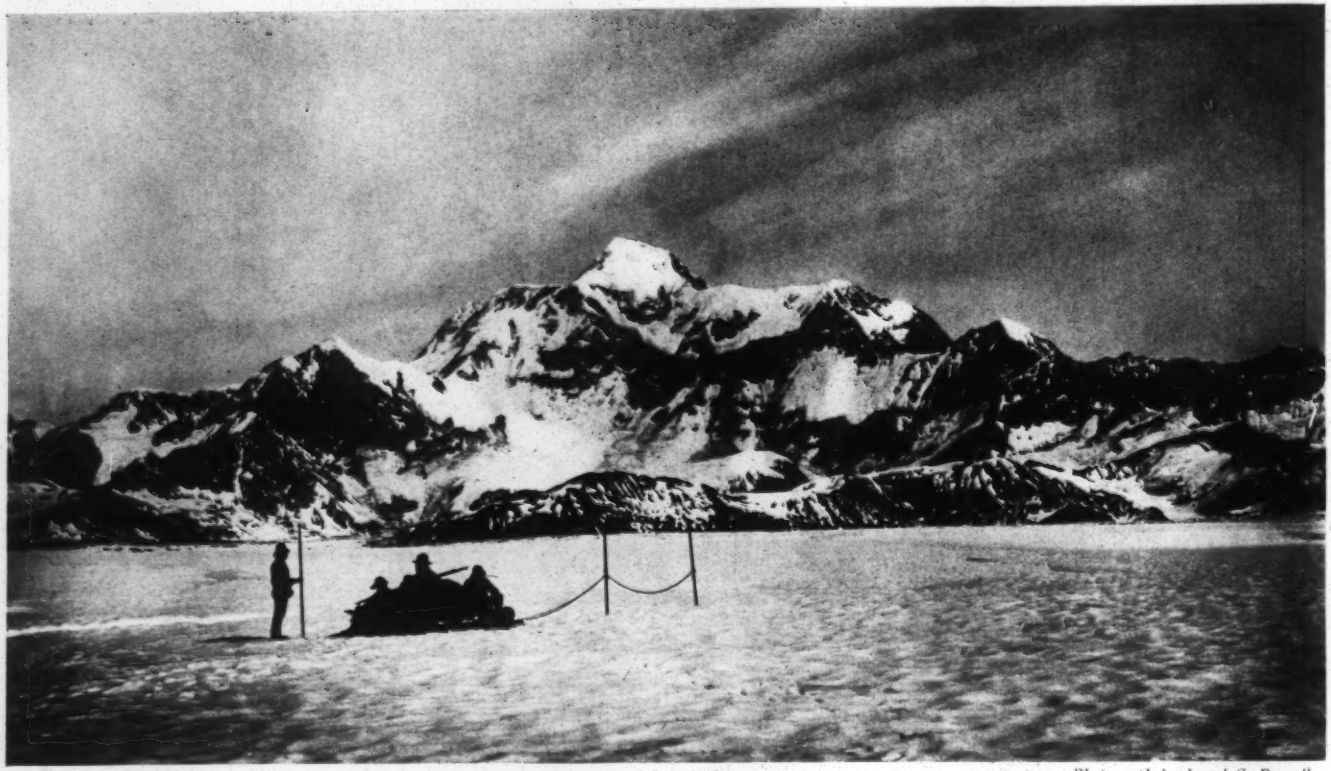

Photograph by Israel C. Russell

MOUNT ST. ELIAS, SENTINEL OF THE ALASKA-YUKON BORDER

The National Geographic Society-Yukon Expedition will explore and map large areas in the neighborhood of this massive 18,008-foot peak next summer (see Bulletin No. 2).

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Red, White, and Blue World's Favorite Flag Colors

FLAGS came into the news twice within recent weeks. The first time, when the historic battle flag of the cruiser *Olympia,* flagship of Admiral Dewey during the battle of Manila Bay, was presented to the United States Naval Academy. The Dewey flag will be added to a notable collection of trophies at Annapolis, which includes Admiral Perry's famous emblem, used so dramatically in the battle of Lake Erie.

The other item concerned the first appearance on the seas of the Palestine marine flag—a British naval design with a circle containing the word "Palestine" and a castle.

The new flag is carried on the Palestine-owned ships *Mount Zion* and *Tel Aviv,* restoring to the Jewish people a profession they have little practiced since the days of the ancient Phoenicians.

Red Most Popular Color

It is of interest to note that the Jewish population of Palestine some time ago adopted an unofficial emblem, consisting of Solomon's seal on a field of blue and white (see illustration, next page), which also has been flown from merchant vessels.

Red, white and blue—these three colors pop into the minds of Americans whenever flags are mentioned. In fact, the three colors in this order are often used as a synonym for the flag of the United States. It so happens, however, that these are the three most popular hues for the flags of the rest of the world.

A recent survey of the flags of all nations, made in connection with the writing of "Flags of the World" (September, 1934, *National Geographic Magazine*), shows that red is used more generally than any other color in modern flag-making, followed by white and blue.

Next in order, but much less popular than the three leaders, are yellow, green and black. Orange, which appears in the banners of three countries, about exhausts the primary colors used in the world's flags. One country (Spain) uses purple. Brown does not appear on any national flag.

More than 800 illustrations in color were found necessary to depict all the world's flags, banners, badges, and symbols. The newest flag is that of Manchutikuo, a field of deep yellow, with a canton (upper left quarter) of red, blue, white, and black stripes.

Designers Borrow from the Heavens

Perhaps the oldest flag still in active use is the red ensign of Denmark with its white cross.

Astronomical devices are favorites of flag-makers. Stars are used by many countries, and there are suns and moons, the latter usually in the form of crescents. Brazil makes use of a circle of the firmament, showing the Southern Cross and neighboring stars; and the Southern Cross also appears on the flags of Australia and New Zealand. Japan's "rising sun" is familiar.

Alaska has placed on its territorial flag the Great Dipper and the Pole Star. The Texas State flag clearly reveals why Texas is sometimes called "The Lone Star" State.

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the British Army to give his whole time to this work. He visited the United States to promote Scouting. A national office was opened, and Dr. James E. West became Chief Scout Executive.

Scouting Now Covers the Earth

Now Scouting covers the earth. Including England, it is organized in more than seventy different nations and colonies, and under the guidance of an international committee of nine. Two are from the British Empire, two are from the United States, and the rest from other countries.

Men prominent now in the Nation's work were Boy Scouts twenty years ago. One late count showed that 58 per cent of university football captains were former Scouts. When Grantland Rice picked his first All-American Eleven, eight were ex-Scouts. In a choice of Rhodes Scholars for 1933, 71 per cent were former Scouts. In Sing Sing, says Warden Lawes, it is rare to find a prisoner who was ever a Scout.

Like the American Red Cross and the American Legion, the Boy Scouts of America form an organization chartered by Congress. President Taft was its first honorary president; every succeeding President has likewise served.

Note: See also "Youth Explores Its World," *National Geographic Magazine*, May, 1934; "Some Forgotten Corners of London," February, 1932; "Modern Ethiopia," June, 1931; "Europe's Newest Kingdom (Albania)," February, 1931; "The Unexplored Philippines from the Air," September, 1930; "Twin Stars of Chile," February, 1929; "Through the English Lake District," May, 1929; "Adventurous Sons of Cadiz," August, 1924; "A Visit to Three Arab Kingdoms," May, 1923; "The Sources of Washington's Charm," June, 1923; "Denmark and the Danes," August, 1922; and "Where Slav and Mongol Meet," November, 1919.

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Photograph by Paul Parker

EVERY BOY LIKES TO "ROUGH IT"

Many Boy Scouts are city lads, but under expert scout masters they soon learn how to take care of themselves in the open. Here four youths with a tent, an ax, and a few matches have set up housekeeping in the woods. Only those who have tried it, know the joys of a simple meal cooked over a crackling wood fire, and how snug a tent can be, even when wintry blasts blow.

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The Society Islands, France's South Seas Paradise

S. O. S. SIGNALS from an American sailing ship in distress near the Society Islands recently directed attention to this lonely mid-Pacific archipelago, whose best known island is Tahiti.

Tahiti, France's most important possession among the South Sea Islands, lies far from the feverish activities of modern industrial life. It is more than 3,000 miles from Australia, 3,600 miles from San Francisco, 4,500 miles from the Panama Canal, 6,000 miles from Asia. By old trade routes—via the Suez Canal and Australia—it is nearly as far from New York as all these distances combined, but the Panama Canal reduces this to 6,500 nautical miles, a saving of 10,000 miles.

Ever since its discovery in 1607, Tahiti has been famed as an isolated jewel, rich in verdure, blest with a pleasant, healthful climate, and inhabited by friendly people of handsome physique.

Green Gem Set in Coral Ring

Tahiti is an extraordinary work of creation—a fertile cinder from volcanic pits, perhaps, or a fragment of a sunken continent, in any event a steepled gem of wondrous green within a teeming coral ring. Here the eye is delighted by leafy luxuriance, stretching from palm-fringed beach to loftiest mountain crest; by the brilliant colors of land and sea; by the high physical standards of the natives, both men and women. The ear is soothed by the wash of an inner sea—gentle streams and boisterous mountain torrents.

Overshadowing all are the mountains. Mighty slabs rise high above a valley. A peak with a triangular summit shoots thousands of feet upward. Beyond, lofty columns, hundreds of feet thick, stand in solitary grandeur; another turn and a shaft cuts the sky with an edge like an enormous knife—an edge to which tree, shrub, fern and vine cling.

Tahiti is not an abode of savages. It still has primitive life, but of barbarism it has none. Life and property are safe; education quickens the mind of the youthful; and the church, the local press, and contact with the Caucasian broaden, in a limited way, the intellect of the adults.

Small Craft Meet Liners

Sloping up gradually from the capital, Papeete, evergreen hills, scarred here and there by barren red and gray clay, extend miles inland, where they overlook the Fautaua and Punaruu valleys. They are broken into almost innumerable canyons and gullies all over their surface.

As the steamer draws near the shore many small craft—the picturesque outrigger canoe, the broad-beamed fruit-boat, and the noisy gasoline schooner—lie at anchor or move about the lakelike harbor.

At the copra-scented dock hundreds of Tahitians and scattered pairs and groups of Americans and Europeans are on hand. It is a mixed throng. There are as many colors and shades of complexion as there are of dress, and some of the native women move with queenly grace. Their dark hair, crowned with a wreath of the *tiare*, the flower of love and friendship, hangs low on their backs.

The most animated moment of the town's daily life begins shortly after its 7,061 inhabitants awaken. The site of this activity is the market square. On Sun-

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Other countries use characteristic symbols: Afghanistan, a mosque; Cambodia, an Eastern temple; the Republic of Lebanon, a cedar; the Papal State, crossed keys and a triple crown; Germany, a swastika; Siam, a white elephant; Persia, a lion; and the Soviet Union, a hammer and sickle. Tibet shows the sun rising over a snowy mountain.

Many Changes Since World War

Among the flags seldom seen in the United States are those of Saudi Arabia, Palestine, the Papal State, Chosen, Monaco, and Iraq.

In addition to the flags of the nations, the survey made by The Society included those of the States of the United States; historic flags of the past; colors and flags of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Government services; international signal flags; flags of rank in the principal navies of the world; and the funnel symbols and flags of steamship companies. The compilation of flags of the world is the first to be made by the National Geographic Society since the World War, and shows many marked changes that have been made in the seventeen-year period.

See also: "Flags of the World," *National Geographic Magazine*, September, 1934; "Changing Palestine," April, 1934; and "Our Flag Number," October, 1917.

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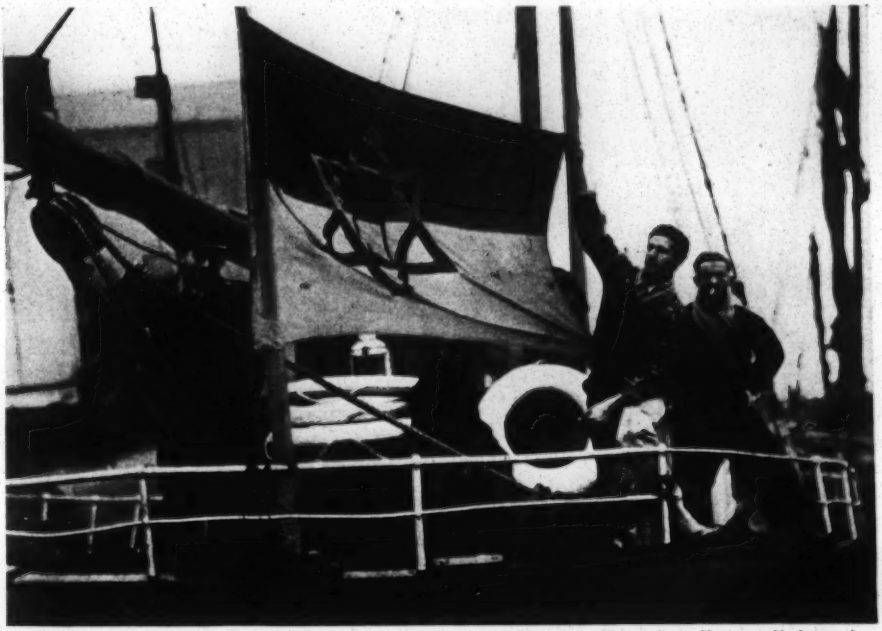

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AN UNOFFICIAL PALESTINE FLAG APPEARS AT SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND

As a British Mandate, Palestine also has a special emblem, consisting of a badge, with the word "Palestine" and a castle within a circle, placed upon an English naval design. The flag shown above has a Solomon's seal on a field of blue and white.

day, the chief market day of the week, neatly dressed men and women from many parts of Tahiti assemble at the market half an hour before the opening bell clangs.

On the previous day and night, boat loads of *feis* (a type of banana) and oranges are laid outside the market building in preparation for the morning rush. In the Sabbath dawn strings of fish, and rumbling wagons, filled with farm products, are hurried to the stands. The scene is enlivening; the crowd is friendly and gay. There meet comrades and relatives who have long been separated; there white and brown elbow each other in neighborly fashion.

Within thirty minutes after the first customer is served the fish benches are stripped, and the butchers, bakers, and vegetable men have parted with more than half their stock. In an hour the market is sold out and almost deserted.

Note: For other pictures of Tahiti and South Sea islands consult: "Coconuts and Coral Islands," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1934; "A Modern Saga of the Seas," December, 1931; "Around the World in the *Islander*," February, 1928; "The Columbus of the Pacific (Capt. James Cook)," January, 1927; "The Romance of Science in Polynesia," October, 1925; "Sailing the Seven Seas in the Interest of Science," December, 1922; "The Dream Ship," January, 1921; and "Tahiti: A Playground of Nature," October, 1920.

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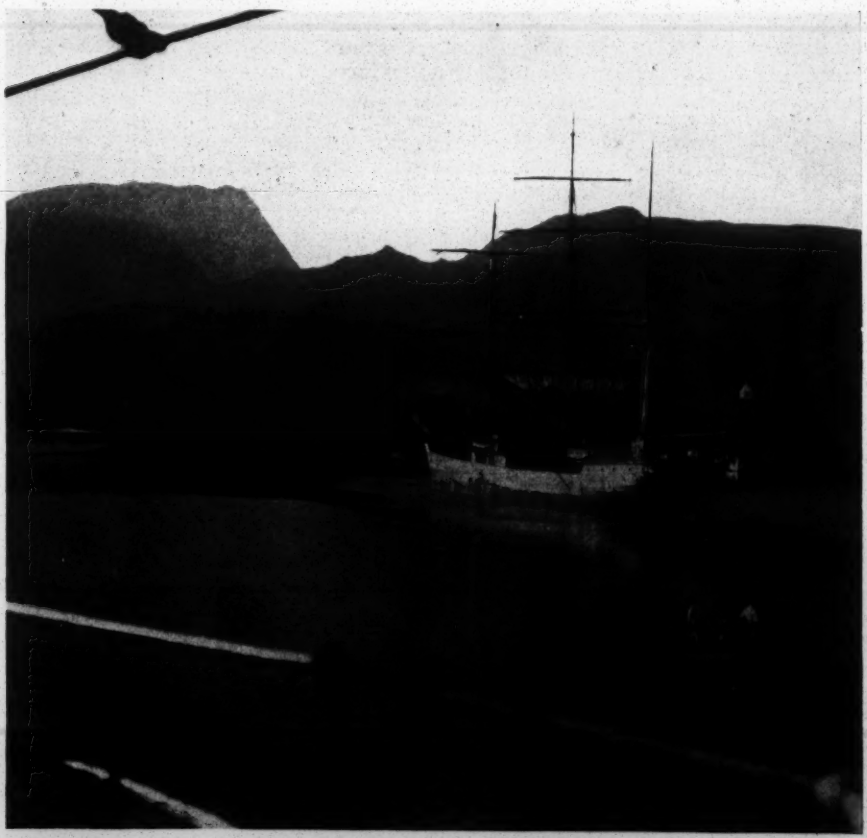

Photograph by Dr. Edward Burton MacDowell

DAWN COMES TO PAPEETE

With its lakelike harbor and towering background of forest-clad mountains, the capital of the Society Islands is justly famous as one of the world's loveliest spots. Papeete, however, is no idle beauty. It exports a considerable quantity of copra, mother-o'-pearl, vanilla beans, and phosphates. Regular steamship service connects this French colony with San Francisco and Australia.